

MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2142, a bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to establish an efficient system to enable employees to form, join, or assist labor organizations, and for other purposes.

S. 2146

At the request of Mr. VITTER, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) were added as cosponsors of S. 2146, a bill to hold sanctuary jurisdictions accountable for defying Federal law, to increase penalties for individuals who illegally reenter the United States after being removed, and to provide liability protection for State and local law enforcement who cooperate with Federal law enforcement and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 22

At the request of Mrs. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 22, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Corps of Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency relating to the definition of "waters of the United States" under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act.

S. RES. 237

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 237, a resolution condemning Joseph Kony and the Lord's Resistance Army for continuing to perpetrate crimes against humanity, war crimes, and mass atrocities, and supporting ongoing efforts by the United States Government, the African Union, and governments and regional organizations in central Africa to remove Joseph Kony and Lord's Resistance Army commanders from the battlefield and promote protection and recovery of affected communities.

S. RES. 278

At the request of Mr. GARDNER, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 278, a resolution welcoming the President of the Republic of Korea on her official visit to the United States and celebrating the United States-Republic of Korea relationship, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. FRANKEN, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 2161. A bill to provide for the adjustment of status of certain nationals of Liberia to that of lawful permanent residents and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, today I am pleased to reintroduce the Liberian Refugee Immigration Fairness Act along with Senators WHITEHOUSE, KLOBUCHAR, WARREN, and FRANKEN.

This bill, which I have introduced every Congress since 1999, seeks to provide a path to citizenship for qualifying Liberian refugees who came here decades ago to escape Liberia's civil wars. Since this time, they have been in our country legally through short term extensions of Temporary Protected Status and Deferred Enforced Departure. After years of uncertainty about whether they will be able to stay in their communities or whether their families will be split up, this bill give eligible Liberians the chance to apply for legal permanent residency, and begin the process of finally becoming citizens.

Similar safeguards were included in the last Comprehensive Immigration Reform bill that the Senate passed, and I look forward to working with my colleagues to provide this critical and long overdue support for our Liberian community.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. DAINES, and Mr. GARDNER):

S. 2163. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Transportation to require that broadband conduits be installed as a part of certain highway construction projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, as a fifth generation Montanan, I have seen firsthand the struggles rural America faces when it comes to broadband connectivity. I worked in the cloud computing industry for 13 years, so I also know the opportunities created by technology and connectivity.

Not only does access to broadband connect rural Americans and tribal communities to the rest of the world, but there are many farming applications that will enable farmers in Montana to be more efficient and equip them to feed the growing population. Despite the importance of connecting these communities, Montana remains ranked among the worst States for broadband connectivity and there are too many instances where the Federal Government stands in the way of broadband infrastructure deployment. This is especially important for States like Montana where 29 percent of the State is federally owned. Every Federal agency has their own set of requirements for siting infrastructure on Federal lands, and the process can take up to 10 years in some cases. This burdensome, bureaucratic process is driving industry away from serving rural America and tribal lands.

That is why I am proud to introduce the bipartisan Streamlining and Investing in Broadband Infrastructure act with my colleagues Senator KLOBUCHAR and Senator GARDNER. The bill implements a dig once policy that in-

corporates broadband conduit installation into new highway projects. It also directs the Federal Government to further consolidate and streamline siting on Federal lands by establishing a fee schedule for the grant of property interests and by developing a master application form for communications construction on all Federal lands. Making effective use of existing resources and streamlining these processes are essential to continue broadband deployment in rural America. By making it easier for providers to lay the groundwork for broadband, we take an important step toward connecting our unserved communities.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 280—RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2015 AS "NATIONAL WOMEN'S SMALL BUSINESS MONTH"

Mr. VITTER (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mrs. FISCHER, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. AYOTTE, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. RISCH, Mr. PETERS, Mr. ENZI, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. COONS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 280

Whereas the Small Business Administration has declared the month of October 2015 to be "National Women's Small Business Month" along with the celebration of the anniversary of the signing of the Women's Business Ownership Act of 1988 (Public Law 100-533; 102 Stat. 2689) that established the National Women's Business Council and the Women's Business Center program;

Whereas there are over 9,900,000 women-owned small businesses in the United States;

Whereas women-owned small businesses collected \$1,600,000,000,000 in total receipts in 2012, which is an increase of 35 percent since 2007;

Whereas the rate of growth for women-owned employer firms is 3 times that of men-owned employer firms;

Whereas, since 2007, the number of women-owned small businesses in the United States has increased by 2,100,000 and women-owned small businesses have added nearly 1,500,000 more jobs;

Whereas Congress continues to support the National Women's Business Council and the focus of the National Women's Business Council on alleviating obstacles faced by women small business owners and women entrepreneurs; and

Whereas the celebration of "National Women's Small Business Month" would honor women small business owners and women entrepreneurs and recognize the significance of their contributions to the small business community: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the month of October 2015 as "National Women's Small Business Month";

(2) honors the vital role of women small business owners and women entrepreneurs in the United States during "National Women's Small Business Month";

(3) recognizes the significant contributions of women small business owners and women entrepreneurs to the small business community;

(4) supports and encourages young women entrepreneurs to pursue their passions and create more start-up businesses;

(5) recognizes the importance of creating policies that promote a business-friendly environment for small business owners that is free of unnecessary regulations and red tape; and

(6) supports efforts to increase awareness of the value of women-owned small businesses on the economy of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 281—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 5 THROUGH OCTOBER 9, 2015, AS “NATIONAL HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY WEEK” TO RECOGNIZE THE VALUE OF HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY IN TRANSFORMING AND IMPROVING THE HEALTHCARE SYSTEM FOR ALL PEOPLE IN THE UNITED STATES

Ms. STABENOW (for herself and Mr. THUNE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 281

Whereas 2015 celebrates the 10th anniversary of National Health Information Technology Week;

Whereas Congress has emphasized that the use of health information technology is essential to providing coordinated care, expanding access to care, and improving the quality and safety of the mental and physical health of all people in the United States;

Whereas health information technology is essential for improving patient care, ensuring patient safety, stopping duplicative tests and paperwork, and reducing healthcare costs;

Whereas Congress has recognized that the convergence of medical advances, health information technology, and high-speed broadband networks are transforming the delivery of care by bringing the healthcare provider and patient together virtually, especially those in disadvantaged populations and geographies;

Whereas by 2020, the market segment for the healthcare-related Internet of Things, which allows data to move among people, sensors, and machines, is expected to approach \$120,000,000,000;

Whereas personalized medicine is an important emerging healthcare topic that includes the tailoring of medicines and treatments to the unique genetic blueprint and lifestyle and environmental data of each patient and comparing that information to the information of other individuals to predict illness and determine best treatments;

Whereas Congress has recognized and taken action to modernize regulations so as to grow the health information technology market, improve the health of all people in the United States, create high-demand jobs, and stimulate market innovation; and

Whereas it is necessary to continue activities that are foundational to the transformation of healthcare delivery in the United States, including—

(1) innovation in health information technology;

(2) opening interoperability between systems and devices; and

(3) the exchange of health information confidently and securely among different providers, systems, and insurers: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of October 5 through October 9, 2015, as “National Health Information Technology Week”;

(2) recognizes the value of information technology and management systems in

transforming healthcare for the people of the United States;

(3) encourages all interested parties to promote the use of information technology and management systems to transform the healthcare system of the United States; and

(4) calls on all people to be engaged in their mental and physical health through the use of health information technology.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 23—SUPPORTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A BIPARTISAN MUSEUM STUDY COMMISSION TO STUDY THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TO TELL THE IMMIGRATION AND MIGRATION STORIES OF ALL PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. SCHATZ submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:

S. CON. RES. 23

Whereas the United States was founded and built by people from every country who made the United States the economic, military, scientific, and cultural leader of the world;

Whereas as of October 2015, there is no national museum in Washington, DC, that—

(1) celebrates the making of the people of the United States; or

(2) tells the migration history of any group of people to or within the United States;

Whereas a National Museum of the American People would—

(1) recount the history of all groups of people who came to the United States and the contributions of those people to the United States;

(2) have the theme *E Pluribus Unum*, the original motto of the United States;

(3) celebrate every ethnic and minority group in the United States;

(4) foster a sense of belonging to the United States;

(5) contribute to a common national identity as people of the United States;

(6) highlight the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, the founding documents of the United States;

(7) explore the ways in which those documents shaped the character of the people of the United States and infused the people of the United States with common values; and

(8) be a resource for State, local, and ethnic museums throughout the United States that present exhibits that celebrate the heritage of the people of the United States;

Whereas the people of the United States do not have a comprehensive and accurate picture of the history of all of the people who founded and continue to build the United States;

Whereas people from every ethnic group in the United States would visit a National Museum of the American People to learn their own history and the history of every other ethnic group in the United States;

Whereas a National Museum of the American People would attract foreign visitors and dignitaries because few foreigners know the story of the individuals who—

(1) became citizens of the United States at the founding of the country; and

(2) migrated to the United States from other countries;

Whereas a museum that tells the story of the making of the people of the United States and celebrates all individuals who migrated and settled in the United States and the territories of the United States belongs near the National Mall in Washington, DC;

Whereas Canada and Mexico have major popular museums in, or adjacent to, the capital cities of those countries that tell the story of the making of the people of Canada and Mexico, respectively;

Whereas the goals of a National Museum of the American People would be—

(1) to be the best storytelling museum in the world;

(2) to recount 1 of the most amazing stories in human history;

(3) to celebrate all of the people who have become people of the United States; and

(4) to foster learning at the museum and throughout the United States;

Whereas non-Federal funding sources will be sought to defray the costs of a Museum Study Commission to study the establishment of a National Museum of the American People and the funding will commence on the date on which the President signs an Executive order creating the bipartisan commission;

Whereas no Federal appropriations will be sought to provide funding for—

(1) the design, construction, or operation a National Museum of the American People; or

(2) the exhibitions or components of the museum; and

Whereas the National Museum of the American People will benefit all people of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress supports the establishment of a bipartisan Museum Study Commission to study the establishment of a National Museum of the American People to tell the immigration and migration stories of all people of the United States, if none of the funding to plan, construct, or operate the museum is from Federal appropriations.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on October 7, 2015, at 9:30 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on October 7, 2015, at 10 a.m., in room SR-253 of the Russell Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing entitled, “Removing Barriers to Wireless Broadband Deployment.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on October 7, 2015, at 9:30 a.m., in room SD-406 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled, “Oversight of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.